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This short, informal newsletter is intended to keep IUGG Member National Committees informed about the activities of the IUGG Associations, and actions of the IUGG Secretariat. Past issues are posted on the IUGG Web site. Please forward this message to those who will benefit from the information. Your comments are welcome.

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1. Happy New Year! The IUGG Yearbook for 2006 is in press

Thanks to all of the Adhering Body National Committees and the Associations for helping to update the information in the IUGG Yearbook! Assistant Secretary General Katina Rogers completed the master copy of the 2006 Yearbook on 9 December. It was posted on the IUGG Website (www.IUGG.org) by Webmaster Kathy Zellers, and will be printed and distributed by the end of January. During 2006, updates to addresses and other information in the Yearbook should be sent to the Secretariat (secretariat@iugg.org) as soon as they are known; our goal is to update the Web copy of the Yearbook periodically throughout the year.

Best Wishes to everyone for a healthy and prosperous New Year!

2. Second Call for Invitations to Host the 2011 IUGG General Assembly

Invitations to host the 2011 General Assembly are now being accepted and must be received by January 2007. The guidelines for a proposal are posted on the IUGG website, or can be received directly from the IUGG Secretariat. The IUGG Council, at their 2007 meeting in Perugia, will make the final selection.

3. Nominating Committee for IUGG Officers for 2007-2011

An important matter for the IUGG Council at its meeting in Perugia, Italy, in 2007 will be the election of officers (President, Vice-President, Secretary-General, Treasurer, and 3 Members), and the 4 members of the Finance Committee. The Nominations Committee has the task of collecting the nominations and preparing the ballot, following the rules regarding nominations and elections for these positions (IUGG By-Laws, Section 10). President Shamir has announced the selection of the members of the Nominations Committee as follows:

Chair: Dr. Suren Gregersen (Denmark)

Members: Prof. Attia Ashour (Egypt), Prof. Robert Duce (U.S.A.), and Prof. Seiya Uyeda (Japan)

Instructions regarding the procedures to be used to submit nominations in accordance with IUGG Statute 11 and By-law 10 will be posted on the IUGG Web site and will be mailed to all IUGG officers

4. Nominations open for IAG Secretary General

The present Secretary General of the International Association of Geodesy (IAG), C.C. Tscherning, has served for 3 periods, and cannot be re-elected. The election of a new Secretary General (SG) will take place in the spring of 2007 together with the election of other officers for the 2007-2011 period. The commitment associated with this position is heavier than that associated with any of the other IAG executive positions and is based on a call for proposals to be evaluated by the IAG Executive.

The duties of the SG are described in the IAG by-laws, section 2.5.3. The SG is also the director of the Central Bureau, so a nomination automatically implies a commitment to host the Bureau. According to the by-laws, the SG receives no salary, but the expenses of the SG may be covered by the allocation received from IUGG. However, the funds needed for these expenses have normally exceeded the IUGG allocation, so the organization hosting the SG and thereby the Central Bureau contributes to the travel expenses of the SG and the running of the Central Bureau. A nomination should therefore include information about the degree to which the hosting organization is prepared to cover, in whole or in part, the expenses of the SG and of the Central Bureau.

The proposal should be submitted to the president of the Nominating Committee, Prof. F. Sanst in electronic form before 15 March 2007. For additional information, please write to Prof. Sanso at fernando.sanso@polimi.it

5. IUGG Website en Français now operational

Thanks to the good work of Kathy Zellers and Katina Rogers, the French IUGG web site has been translated and transferred to the IUGG Internet server. We are grateful for their time and talent.

6. IUGG-Related Meetings Occurring during January - March 2006

A calendar of meetings of interest to IUGG disciplines (especially those organized or sponsored by IUGG Associations) is posted on the IUGG Web Site [www.iugg.org]. Specific information about these meetings, including web links, can be found there. Individual Associations also list more meetings on their web sites appropriate to their disciplines.

January 4 - 6, 2006

IAHS; Dindigul, Tamilnadu, India; IGC 2006 International Groundwater Conference on Sustainable Development and Management of Groundwater Resources in Arid and Semi-Arid Regions

January 21- 26, 2006

IGBP; Boulder, Colorado, USA; First Integrated Land Ecosystem Atmosphere Processes Study (iLEAPS) Science Conference

January 23-27, 2006

IAVCEI; Quito, Ecuador; Cities on Volcanoes 4

March 6 - March 8, 2006

IASPEI; Islamabad, Pakistan; International Conference on Seismology with special reference to the October 8, 2005 Earthquake

March 6 - March 10, 2006

SCOSTEP; Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; 11th Quadrennial Solar Terrestrial Physics Symposium

March 13 - March 18, 2006

IAG; Venice, Italy; Fifteen Years of Progress in Radar Altimetry Symposium

March 16 - March 22, 2006

IAHS; Mexico City, Mexico; Fourth World Water Forum: Local Actions for a Global Challenge

March 27 - March 29, 2006

UN/ISDR; Bonn, Germany; Third International Conference on Early Warning

End of IUGG Electronic Journal Volume 6 Number 1 (January 3, 2006) J. A. Joselyn, Secretary General [http://www.IUGG.org] jioselyn@cires.colorado.edu, fax: 1 303 497 3645.